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sept 16

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## Democratic State Convention.

We are authorized to state that the Democratic Central Committee, who have been requested to name the time and place for holding a Convention of the Democratic party of Kentucky, for the nomination of candidates for Governor and Lieut. Governor, and the transaction of other matters pertaining to politics, recommend to the party that they meet in State Convention at Frankfort, on the 15th day of March, 1855.

Our neighbor, the Commonwealth, showed on last Monday a spasmodic sign that it still adheres to some of the doctrines once taught by the late Whig party. During the rise and fall of Know-Nothingism, it was as silent as a poughed-up grave yard to all the obsolete chimeras that were understood to be the paramount dogmas of the party in the days of its existence. Not relishing, however, the idea of being considered as buried along with the party it once upheld, some kind friend seems to have applied a galvanic battery to its stiff, stark limbs and succeeded in getting out of it, an old fashioned Whig kick—a paragraph on the tariff in which it is clearly shown (over the left) that the hard times, which at present bedevils the prosperity of portions of our country, is attributable only to the present tariff. It is proven beyond all question—to the writer—that a rain last summer and the shortness of the crops were the direct result of short-sightedness in the framers of our present revenue laws, and that starvation, drought, prostration of business, and all the ills that national life is heir to, is chargeable to Democracy.

Just hear its wailings: "It results from the diminution of the imports of foreign goods, and that diminution is in turn the result of hard times and bankruptcy brought on by excessive imports heretofore. It is, under the circumstances of the case, a wholesome process. It is fastidiously fanning, starving, and glutting. It is the natural course of the free-trade policy which modern Democrats and free-trade politicians have imposed upon the country."

It strikes us, tho', as being rather singular why doctrine that a "diminution of the imports of foreign goods" creates hard times. We have always understood the leaders of that party as teaching exactly the reverse of this. According to the best of our belief, they held that a tariff for protection was the only thing that could make times easy, and labor and money plenty. Did the idea ever occur to our neighbor that protection to home labor can only be procured by this very "diminution of the imports of foreign goods"? If not, he is very sadly behind the times, and badly posted up in the doctrines of the party to which he once belonged. This is the foundation of the protective theory, and it is opinions that a *whig* editor should attempt to take it away from the superstructure. We can't account for it unless upon the supposition that the doctrines of the new party, the Know Nothings, have so completely turned his head that he looks upon the past as nothing but a dream, and is willing to suffer the *curse* of his old party to be "Unwept, unremembered and unused."

## The "Dead Head" System.

The following very sensible remarks upon this subject are from the columns of the Louisville Times, of the 18th inst. We had intended writing something ourselves, but the Times has expressed our views so fully, and presented the matter so clearly and cleverly, that nothing is left for us but to respond *amen*, which we do with the greatest unison. We care very little whether editors are required to pay or not. We feel certain that very few of them will be affected by the "dead head" regulation and still fewer will care for it in a pecuniary sense. But we are indignant at and do protest in the sanctity of the quill, against the gross insult perpetrated upon our fraternity, by Railroad Corporations, to wit: that because they had heretofore invited us occasionally to ride free of pecuniary cost on their lines, payment for which favor on their part we unfortunately were never released from, but lived with an overwhelming *onus* of gratitude on our shoulders, notwithstanding sundry bits of editorial services—we, the united press of the country, are now gravely called "dead heads" by a council of Railroad corporations, and ordered to be cut off as dead branches and dry limbs, containing no sap. Seriously we consider this an insult to the press, which we think it behooves every true editor to resent. But here is the Times article:

We sincerely rejoice that the directors of various railroads have abolished the custom of carrying dead heads over their roads. We don't know how it was with others but we never felt like a freeman riding in a railroad car free of charge. The conductors and managers always had a wonderful gift of making us feel the obligation heaped upon us. Our "pass" informed us in the most emphatic and legible terms that we were not to expect the protection afforded to passengers who paid, but that our life, limbs, and baggage were at our personal risk—in addition to all this, it was expected of us that we should write at least a half a column puff of the "gentlemanly conductor," and the admirable management of the road. And after performing all this, we were ranked as a "dead head."

We believe that railroad corporations are the only bodies soulless or otherwise that ever ranked editors as dead heads. It is an indignity to the profession, and we hope it will be met with proper resentment. The newspaper press is at present more burdened with dead heads than any other enterprise extant. The misanthropic and troublesome of these dead heads, are railroad corporations. From the preliminary survey of a railroad, up to its completion, the entire press contiguous to the line, commence advertising the project in the editorial columns. We venture the assertion that if the publishers of newspapers in Kentucky and Ohio, could flow receive one-half price for the printing they have done for the exclusive benefit of railroads, they would be able to travel on railroads, for the balance of their lives, and pay double fare out of them.

In view of these facts, we suggest that a convention of the editors of Kentucky be called to take into consideration the expediency of abolishing, or at least modifying the "dead head" system of the quill. What say you, gentlemen of the quill? Such a course would be but justice to ourselves. We who are always foremost in forwarding enterprises for the benefit of others, should not be entirely careless of our own interests. It is due ourselves both in a point of interest and self-respect that we meet the issue of these railroad companies on their own grounds. They have set us an example, and their action towards the press, have relieved

us of any feeling of embarrassment which we otherwise might have felt in suggesting this reform.

In this convention we also publish the following resolutions passed by the late Editorial Convention of Ohio, which apply as well to Kentucky. We hope our editorial friends throughout the State will not be behind their brethren of Ohio, but will speak out in this matter:

**Resolved**, That the Press of Ohio has always labored to promote the best interests of our State in doing which, the weight of its influence has been in an especial manner, been thrown on the side of Railroad enterprises, not so much for the benefit of individual companies as for what we have believed, and do now believe to be, for the general interest of the whole State.

**Resolved**, That the courtesies which have been extended to the Press by Railroad companies, we have never regarded as special favors to us, but as a recognition on the part of the corporations of the support which the Press has always so liberally given them.

**Resolved**, That the Railroad corporations, by concentrated and united action having as a business operation, decided to withhold those courtesies from the Press in the future. Therefore let it be **Resolved**, That we, Editors of Ohio, from this time forth, will imitate the example set us by the Railroad corporations, and do that which it is for our business interest to do—make with them our courtesies "a fair business," and recommend this course for the adoption of our brethren throughout Ohio.

The following article was written as one of a series intended for publication in the Commonwealth; the first of which under the signature of "A Steadfast Whig," appeared in that paper a week or ten days since. It not being deemed, however, advisable by the publisher of the Commonwealth to continue their publication, the writer is necessitated to request the insertion of this and its follower in the *Freeman*.

LEWIS E. HARVIE.  
[For the *Freeman*.]  
The cry is, break up, dissolve the Whig party, and join the Know-Nothings. And for what? What good do Whigs expect to accomplish by such a change? Wherein is the country to be benefited thereby? Come gentlemen Know-Nothings, once zealous and enthusiastic Whigs, tell us in what consists this miraculous good, this mighty and marvelous purification of the country is to sustain by the dismemberment and annihilation of the Whig party, and the installation in its place of the new and secret society of Know-Nothings. Let's hear. When men who have for years been members of a great political party, have long been accustomed to regard it with feelings of pride, honor and reverence, and have believed, or professed to believe, its measures and policy essential to the best interests of their country, are suddenly called upon to give up that party and incorporate themselves into a new organization, of which they have heard but little and know less, surely some cogent and powerful reason should be given for the change. They should be convinced, clearly and conclusively, that some great and paramount good to the country is to be effected thereby, that that good is not mixed with still greater evil; and lastly that its full benefits cannot be obtained through the agency and action of the party to which they have before belonged.

Now what are the Know-Nothings, and what is it they propose to do? Of the Know-Nothings, their members, their places of meeting, the mode and principle of their proceedings, or the character of their deliberations, I know but little, and that little derived from that most treacherous and unreliable of all sources of information, hearsay or common report. Common report, however, sustained by the half concealed declarations of their own organs, fixes upon them the character of a secret political society, having for its object the establishment of a great and fundamental change in the laws and policy of the government as regards a certain class of our population, and the professors of a certain religious belief now prevalent in the country. They are said to be a combination of *silent, secret, political agents*, seeking by *unknown and mysterious means*, through *invisible channels*, to correct great evils under which the country has long complained and sorely suffered, and against which even this society, great, powerful and prompt to act as it is said to be, is unwilling to contend in the main spirit of open and honorable warfare. Do Whigs see in this secrecy, this solemn mystery with which the *order of Know-Nothings* have to some extent enveloped their objects and completely shrouded their proceedings, no grounds of objection, no germinating seeds of future danger to the institutions and liberties of the nation? Is the voice of history dumb to them? Are they deaf to its teaching, that they should disregard its most solemn warnings? When have the liberties of a nation been established or sustained by such secret and mysterious organizations? When the rights of a free people rescued from the grasp of tyranny and oppression by the action of such combinations of invisible and irresponsible agents? History is silent. But when on the other hand have law and public order been violated, individual right invaded, and popular liberty destroyed through the machinations of secret clubs? Read its pages. The annals and fate of almost every nation of which history or tradition give us knowledge, furnish ample proof of the great danger of secret political societies, give melancholy illustrations of law and the public peace outraged, of private right trampled upon, and liberty overthrown by their agency. They are not the honorable weapons with which patriots in a free country strive to give justice to law and stability to liberty. Patriots sometimes use them; but it is only in cases of dire necessity when right is borne down beneath the overwhelming force of power; when free speech and free conduct vainly seek to speak out against the violence and injustice of tyranny and wrong. Under such circumstances they are not only legitimate, but proper instruments which patriots may employ to establish their rights or avenge their wrongs. But in free countries, with the rights of free speech and a free press, established and confirmed by law, constitution, and opinion, where their necessity or their propriety? There is none. They then become the vile instruments by which demagogues and political tricksters seek to establish their own influence and power at the expense of the public good and popular right. Or they are the still baser appliances by which conspirators against the liberties and nationality of their country strive to enslave their fellow countrymen. Is the tyranny of power so cruel, or are the exactions of government so oppressive in America, that Americans dare not speak out boldly and openly in support of needful changes in the constitution and laws? Who will say it? What have free speech, and free legal conduct to dread in America? Is pub-

lic liberty so endangered, or are the free institutions of the country in such deadly peril from the strong and unscrupulous arm of power, that Americans on their own soil and under the protection of their own laws, must needs conspire in secret and in silence to defend them?

Whence the danger? And who the enemy? Foreign influence and our foreign population. And when have Americans become such *crenata* that they fear enslavement by a few foreigners that settle in their midst? When have the descendants of the men of Bunker Hill, Saratoga, and Yorktown become so timid and cautious in their character that they dare not speak out boldly and openly in defence of their institutions and their own best interests, for fear of offending a few paltry squads of *Irishmen and Dutchmen English and Welsh*? Are more than twenty millions of free Americans to be so overawed, that they must needs hold their tongues and fold their arms in the presence of less than five millions of foreigners, when their liberties are threatened or their dearest rights in peril? Who will thus slander American spirit and American patriotism? The idea is ludicrous enough. But independent of its ludicrousness, do Whigs see no danger remote and indistinct it may be, but none the less certain for that, to the free institutions of the country in these things? Grant that there be no danger, yet is there nothing in ideas, nor the association of ideas? And will Whigs accustomed to avow their sentiments and proclaim their belief without a fear and without favor, willingly associate themselves even in the means by which they aim to secure great and much needed political reforms, with conspirators and traitors? Will they rob conspiracy of its weapons and borrow of treachery its armour? I trust never. But there is danger great and imminent. Like will beget like. One secret political society will beget another, and another another. The Union will soon be encompassed by a thickened and deadly web of secret societies and clubs, plotting and counterplotting against each other. Their proceedings and machinations may be at first secret and silent. But their results will soon be open and clamorous. The thoughts and purposes of men will be diverted from their accustomed channels. Their aims, straightforward, blunt spoken spirit of the people will be broken. Men will still have objects and pursue them, but the ends and the means will be alike dark and mysterious, scarce whispered even to themselves. Straight lines will lose their beauty, and crooks and curves and angles in the public and private conduct of men seem singularly fascinating. The regular proceedings of the government will be embarrassed. Its regular legislation will be disgraced by laws involving new descriptions of pains and penalties. Riot and tumult will ensue. The public peace will be outraged, the public laws set at naught. Faction will be arrayed in deadly hate against faction, religion set against religion, each seeking the destruction and death of the other. Persecution and persecution will follow; citizens will be first restricted in their franchises and then deprived of their liberties. Men accustomed to liberty will not quietly submit to enslavement, will rebel and take up arms. Then comes civil strife, and when civil war begins, justice and liberty and law and government end. The web that at first sets so lightly upon the country, that it seems but a network of silken cords designed for ornament, or at most for wholesome restraint, will gradually draw tighter and closer its treacherous meshes—its threads will, degree by degree, grow heavier and sharper, until the country, awakening from its illusion with trade prostrated, society disorganized, law despised, and liberty overthrown, will find those light and silken cords fatal and inexorable chains that eat and corrode and destroy even to the hearts core. From them there will be no escape—against them no relief. I draw no fancy sketch to amuse an hour or give a semblance of plausibility and truth to a purpose. All history, all experience, all reason proves its dread reality.

And now with these facts and considerations before them will Whigs pause and ponder before they lend their aid and countenance to a doubtful and dangerous expedition. Or will they blindly plunge themselves, and with themselves their country, its peace and its liberty, into the fearful abyss? Will they for the sake of a present questionable good, voluntarily incur far greater future certain and inevitable evils? I have thus endeavored to show that however just and good in themselves may be the aims and purposes of the Know-Nothings, and I am free to confess that in some respects I believe them to be eminently so, the instruments they have selected for their accomplishment are in their very nature and character radically vicious and anti-republican. Now if the nucleus around which the order has gathered, the seed from which the plant has germinated be defective, must not the plant itself and its fruit of necessity partake of the same character? This fact I will endeavor to establish in your next issue.

## A PROTESTANT WHIG.

**Democratic Meeting in Muhlenberg.**  
At a meeting of the Democracy of Muhlenberg county, held at the court house, in Greenville, on Saturday, January 13th, 1855, Capt. CHARLES W. DOZIER was called to the chair, and THOMAS J. JONES, appointed Secretary.

The chairman, in a few eloquent remarks, explained the object of the meeting.

Upon motion of L. W. Vick, B. E. Oates, J. R. Lambuth, and William G. Jones were appointed a committee to prepare resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting, who, after a short retirement, presented the following preamble and resolutions, which, after being read, were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, It has been thought expedient to call a convention of the democracy of Kentucky, to be held in the city of Frankfort, on the 15th day of March next, for the purpose of nominating suitable persons as candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor of Kentucky;

And whereas, The Democracy of Muhlenberg, feeling a lively interest in all matters pertaining to the interests of the party, and the prosperity of our common country, and desiring to be represented in said convention; therefore

**Resolved**, That the following gentlemen be and they are hereby, appointed delegates to represent us at that convention: B. E. Oates, E. R. Dillingham, Gillis Moore, James Benson, Jesse R. Oates, William Irvin, Col. Thomas Morgan, R. Clarke, Capt. Charles W. Dozier, F. B. Hancock, J. C. Lands, James Gish, Dr. A. M. Jackson, Richard H. Jones, H. D. Rothrock, Wickliffe Davis, Robert Young, O. C. Vallandigham, Jr., John Dearing, Samuel Rhoades, John L. Roark, Everett Mitchell, Burrell Spears, J. J. Baker, Wm. Williams, Samuel Turner, J. C. Pierce, Wm. D. Robertson, Thomas Jenkins, H. H. Luckett, Wm. W. Hancock, L. W. Vick, Sebastian C. Vick, Samuel Gossett, Wm. Lambuth, Sr., James W. Rice, A. M. Drake, M. C. Drake, Moses M. Rice, J. P. Drake, Capt. W.

W. Martin, J. C. Stokes, R. D. Reynolds, Thomas Summers, R. T. Moore, James L. Lile, James Carlin, R. H. Shannon, S. H. Brewer, Parks Goodall, Ferdinand Poole, R. P. Jenkins, S. M. Ross, L. D. Fentress, Capt. Isaac Miller, John R. Lambuth, Wm. G. Jones, Dr. R. C. Frazer, A. Johnston, F. M. Duval, Beverly Coleman, Thos. Jones, Josiah Johnson, J. A. Stenberger, Isaac A. Clifford.

**Resolved**, That while we leave our delegates untrammelled as for whom they should vote, we cannot refrain from suggesting to the favorable consideration of the convention, the names of Hon. John C. Breckinridge, of Fayette, as a proper candidate for Governor, and Thos. C. McCreery, of Daviess, as a suitable candidate for Lieut. Governor; but whilst we thus intimate our preference for them, we would not disparage the claims of many other equally talented and trustworthy gentlemen of our party.

**Resolved**, That the Democracy of Muhlenberg will stand firmly by our well tried and long cherished principles, "of equal rights to all, and exclusive privileges to none."

**Resolved**, That we duly appreciate the able, faithful, and patriotic manner in which his Excellency, Gov. Powell, has discharged the duties of his administration.

**Resolved**, That in Franklin Pierce we have a Chief Magistrate, able and patriotic, and worthy the confidence of the American people.

**Resolved**, That the proceedings of this meeting be signed by the Chairman and Secretary, and a copy forwarded to the editors of the Louisville Democrat for publication, and that the Democratic papers in Kentucky be requested to copy.

**Resolved**, That this meeting now adjourn sine die.

CHAS. W. DOZIER, Chm.

THOS. J. JONES, Sec'y.

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Which has no equal in the successful treatment of Scrofula, Rheumatism, Lymphatic Diseases of the Kidneys, Derangements of the Liver, &c., &c., and in fact, all diseases connected with derangement of the Blood and Visceral Secretions.

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The above establishment is a new house, built and fitted up expressly for the accommodation of regular and transient boarders.

No trouble or expense will be spared to make our guests comfortable. jn20 1y

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THE undersigned are now making STEAM ENGINES and MILL MACHINERY, from new patterns, got up in the best modern and approved styles; also, Pulleys, Lard Oil, and Mill Screws, Iron Railings, Forging and Lighting Pumps of various sizes and kinds, cast Iron Screw Pipes, from 2 to 3 inches diameter, Castings, and Brass Pipes from 2 to 12 inches in diameter, Railroad Cars, Wagon and Axles, and other Railroad Castings. They are also the sole manufacturers of Royal and French Cast Iron and Brass Machine for wagon and carriage makers' use, which has been pronounced by competent judges to be one of the greatest labor saving machines ever invented.

Orders from a distance, with satisfactory reference, or cash, will receive prompt attention. jn20 1y

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Mills and Saw Mill Machinery in all their varieties, and of the latest patterns. *Parter's patent Water Wheel* of all sizes. Sugar Mills, Cotton Presses, Ginning, Cotton Press Machinery, viz.: M'Combs, Frazier, the Newell Press, &c., both *Handers and Tobacco Presses*, with iron framing. T. L. Mendenhall, *Cotton Presses*, Hay Screws, Tobacco Screws, Lard Oil Screws, Turners, Wheel, Hoisting and other Screws, Horse Power, Bark Mills, and all kinds of Corn Shellers, and all kinds of Iron and Brass Castings and Wrought Iron work, done to order with promptness and dispatch. jn20 1y

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The Bazaar House, Bangor, Maine;  
The Metropolitan Hall, Chicago, Illinois;  
The Masonic Hall, Augusta, Ga.;  
The Exchange Hotel, Richmond, Va.;  
The Exchange Bank, do  
The Battle House, Mobile, Ala.;  
The Barret House, Cincinnati, Ohio;  
St. John's Episcopal Church, Cincinnati, Ohio;  
Sylvester's School, Cincinnati, do  
Mr. Hately's Villa, Dayton street, do  
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The Eighth Session of Mrs. FRANKLIN'S Female Seminary will open on Monday, January 1st, 1855.

Preparatory Department.....\$10 00  
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**REGISTER'S Office.**  
December 15, 1854.

BY the act of the 7th March, 1854, of the General Assembly of Kentucky, the law was repealed requiring a fee of \$1.25 to be paid on each plat and certificate of survey registered in this office.

Before the passage of said act, many surveys were sent to the Land Office, which were not paid for. Notice is hereby given that the fees must be paid for surveys withdrawn. After the withdrawal of the same, they may be returned to the surveyor, but they cannot fall to please the most choice customers. Dec 3y

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